

REMARKS

Claims 5 and 10 have been cancelled. New Claims 11, 12 and 13 are in this application. Support for these new claims is found, inter alia, on page 1, in the paragraph bridging pages 4 and 4, page 5 and pages 9 to 11.

The present invention teaches a straightforward and sensitive procedure to detect long-term brain plasticity caused by chemical agents. The fly model described in this application is inventive because it identifies measurement of one particular locomotor activity among many others which were tested as a means to detect long-term behavioral change inducing activities by chemical agents. The invention is a method of treating wild type flies, grown for a particular period in a medium containing a test compound and then shifted to a medium without the test compound for a given period. A specific locomotor activity measurement indicates the presence or absence of plasticity causing activity by a test compound.

The Examiner rejected claims 5 and 10 as being obvious over Sharma, et al. (US 6,541,193 B2) in view of Wolf, et al. (*J. Neuroscience* 2002, 22, 11035-11044) and Faeldt et al. (US 2004/0076583A1) and further in view of Saba et al. (US 2003/0219782A1) as stated in the office action mailed January 17, 2008.

This is respectfully traversed.

Claim 11 is patentable over Sharma U.S. Patent 6,541,193 because the claim relates to drug induced behavior in wild type flies whereas wild type excludes any mutant that is developed in laboratory.

As stated in the previous response, Wolf describes a method for detecting the effect of acute exposure to alcohol. However, the present invention is directed to a chronic drug treatment model not an acute model. One skilled in the art would expect that effects from acute and chronic exposure would differ and a method for detecting acute effects could reasonably differ from a

method for measuring chronic effects. In addition, in the present claim, the effects are measured after the drug has been withdrawn for about twice as long as the time of the exposure to the drug.

The same feature of measuring for detection of long term plasticity is lacking Faeldt as Faeldt does not teach nor suggest treatment and then withdrawal of the drug.

As the combination of the cited references does not teach nor suggest the claimed invention nor would one of skill in the art have a reasonable expectation of success from the combination of references, it is respectfully requested that the rejection be withdrawn.

It is submitted that the application is in condition for allowance and favorable consideration is respectfully requested.

If any fees are due, authorization to charge deposit account 12-0425 is provided.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Janet I. Cord', is written over a horizontal line.

JANET I. CORD

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